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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Brandenburg-Briest Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 27 November 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Rail shipments observed at the Brandenburg-Briest airfield between 15 October and 4 November 1953 included:

15 October. A shipment consisting of 1 boxcar with 1 officer and 12 soldiers and 3 boxcars with ammunition.

19 October. Two tank cars with fuel arrived from Wustermarke.

1 November. Three tank cars arrived from Wustermarke.

4 November. Two boxcars arrived from Volton.<sup>1</sup>

2. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field between 23 October and 11 November:

23 to 27 October. There was no air activity. The Il-10s were parked in front of the flight control station and were being painted.

29 October. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., about 80 soldiers were working on the aircraft. About 4 p.m., the engines of some Il-10s were started.

30 October. No air activity was observed.

31 October. At 8 a.m., about 130 soldiers were receiving instruction at the aircraft. Engines were being started but there was no flying.

2 November. Between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., Il-10s took off individually, probably for training flights.

3 November. At 9 a.m., 60 Il-10s were parked at the dispersal areas. Between 9:30 a.m. and 11:50 a.m., 6 Il-10s individual flights of about 30 minutes duration. Flying was discontinued about noon because of heavy rain. At 10:30 a.m., 2 biplanes landed.

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4 to 7 November. There was no air activity. It was partly cloudy.

9 November. At 8 a.m., engines were started but no take-offs were seen. At 10:30 a.m., a Po-2 landed. There was a drizzling rain.

10 November. At 8 a.m., the engines of the aircraft were started. There was no flying. The weather was hazy and it rained intermittently.

11 November. There was no flying. The weather was hazy but cleared up during the day. At noon, the aircraft in front of the flight control station were parked so closely together that they could not be counted. [REDACTED]

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3. About 9:45 a.m. on 25 October, about 30 officers and soldiers with baggage left Brandenburg in the direction of Potsdam. At 9 a.m. on 30 October, 23 officers with baggage arrived at the field [REDACTED]

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4. At 10 a.m. on 7 November, about 450 Soviet soldiers were lined up in the yard of the Landesanstalt. [REDACTED] the soldiers belonged to three units of equal strength. Thirty to 40 officers stood at the right wing of each unit. An officer who stood in front of a group of 5 to 6 officers gave a speech. About 11 a.m., most of the soldiers went back to their quarters in the Landesanstalt from where some returned to the yard for athletics after having changed dress. Twenty to 30 soldiers in groups of 2s and 4s went to the airfield. At 11:30 a.m., 30 officers and 53 men marched to the town.

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5. On 9 November, [REDACTED] the Soviets intended to release the southern buildings of the Landesanstalt which they were occupying and move into the northern buildings instead. [REDACTED] the field that nine new temporary wooden buildings were to be erected at the field during the coming winter.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The shipments are reported for the first time, nevertheless the information is believed to be correct. [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. Previously the ground attack regiment was equipped with 60 IL-10s. There were only 39 aircraft available [REDACTED] again counted 60 IL-10s. Apparently, maintenance work was being done on the aircraft.

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. Possibly the personnel leaving and arriving were attending a training course.

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